



STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Jim Gibbons, Governor

Allen Biaggi, Director

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Administrator

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION

Web Posting Date – 09/19/08

The Administrator, Division of Environmental Protection, Carson City, Nevada is issuing the following notice of proposed action under the Nevada Revised Statutes.

The Administrator has received a complete application for renewal of water pollution control discharge permit No. NEV95001 from the following applicant:

Sierra Pacific Power Company
6226 West Sahara Avenue MS #30
Las Vegas, Nevada 89146

For the Fort Churchill Power Generating Station

The applicant operates the Fort Churchill facility, and proposes to continue discharging water from four cooling ponds : to a series of three wetland cells immediately south and west of the Ft. Churchill cooling ponds, via pipeline, to the North Pond of the Mason Valley Wildlife Management Area, and for dust control and firefighting uses . The facility cooling ponds are located approximately two miles east southeast of Wabuska, in Mason Valley, Lyon County, Nevada. The cooling ponds receive supplemental water from supply wells which improve water quality for the cooling pond fishery and for the discharge to the wetlands and North Pond. The wetlands created by the discharge will benefit wildlife diversity and numbers. Power plant wastestreams and stormwater are discharged to a lined (zero discharge) evaporation pond. The proposed permit is for a five (5) year period.

On the basis of preliminary review of the requirements of the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and implementing regulations, the Administrator proposes to reissue the permit to discharge, subject to certain effluent limitations and special conditions.

Persons wishing to comment upon or object to the proposed determinations by the Administrator regarding permit issuance or request a hearing pursuant to the Nevada Administrative Code, Water Pollution Control should submit their comments or request, in writing or by FAX, within thirty (30) days of newspaper publication, by October 24, 2008, either in person or by mail to:

Department of Conservation and Natuhral Resources
Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Pollution Control
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001
Carson City, Nevada 89701

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All comments or objections received within thirty (30) days will be considered in the formulation of final determinations regarding the application. If written comments indicate a significant degree of public interest in the proposed permit, the Administrator shall hold a public hearing. A public notice of such hearing will be issued not less than thirty (30) days prior to the hearing date.

If no hearing is held and the determinations of the Administrator are substantially changed from the tentative determinations, the Administrator will give public notice of the revised determinations. Additional comments and objections will be considered at that time.

The application, proposed permit, comments received, and other information are on file and may be copied or copies may be obtained by writing to the above address or by calling Icyl C. Mulligan of the Bureau of Water Pollution Control at 775.687.9432. Copies of the Fact Sheet and Public Notice may be viewed or printed from the NDEP website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/admin/public.htm>.

Please bring the foregoing notice to the attention of all persons whom you know would be interested in this matter.